

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this case. Claims 1-13 are amended and new Claims 14-18 are added by the present amendment. Amended Claims 1-13 and new Claims 14-18 are supported by the original claims, and therefore add no new matter.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-5 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hori et al. (Japanese Patent No. JP402031060, hereinafter “Hori”) in view of Ohoka (U.S. Patent No. 4,938,089) and Goldschmidt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,118,848, hereinafter “Goldschmidt”). Claims 1-4 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Howard (U.S. Patent No. 3,626,779) in view of Ohoka and Goldschmidt. However, Claims 6-10 were indicated as including allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 6-10 include allowable subject matter.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite, Claims 1 and 3 are amended to delete the word “integrally” from the phrase “integrally fitted.” Claim 3 is also amended to delete the word “lower” from the phrase “lower surface.” Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-10 are in compliance with all requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claims 6, 7, and 9 are rewritten in independent form, but do not include the subject matter of Claim 4 as, according to page 3 of the outstanding Office Action, the subject matter of Claim 4 was not given patentable weight. Accordingly, Claims 6-10 are believed to be allowable.

With regard to the rejections of Claims 1 as unpatentable over Hori or Howard in view of Ohoka and Goldschmidt, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent Claim 1 recites a transmission gear with a dog clutch gear comprising:

a flange on an outer circumferential surface of said ring part extending in an outer radial direction from said base end portion of the clutch teeth; and

a plurality of interfaces between said ring part and said transmission gear.

Hori describes circular gear spline member 15 having a circular convex part 21 engaged with a circular concave part 11 of a gear main body member 1.¹ It is respectfully asserted that Hori at most describes that circular convex part 21 extends in an *axial* direction of the gear main body member 1. It is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching or suggestion in Hori for a flange on an outer circumferential surface of a ring part extending in an outer *radial* direction from a base end portion of the clutch teeth, as recited in Claim 1.

Howard describes a gear made in two parts.² Figures 1-4 of Howard disclose multiple embodiments of the gear structure. Page 4 of the outstanding Office Action cited Howard as teaching a flange (not numbered) formed on the ring part on a side corresponding to the base portion of the clutch teeth. However, it is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching or suggestion in Howard for a flange on an outer circumferential surface of a ring part extending in an outer *radial* direction from a base end portion of the clutch teeth, as recited in Claim 1.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that neither Ohoka nor Goldschmidt teach or suggest a flange on an outer circumferential surface of a ring part extending in an outer *radial* direction from a base end portion of the clutch teeth.

¹See Hori, column 5, Constitution and Figures 1, 2, 3, and 5.

²See Howard, column 2, lines 27-28 and Figures 1-4.

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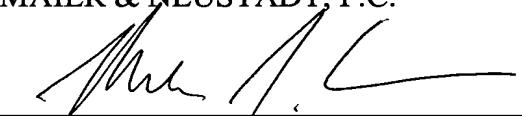
Since the cited references, either taken alone or in any combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of Claim 1, Claim 1, and Claim 2 dependent therefrom, is patentable over the cited references.

Amended independent Claims 3 and 11-13 recite similar elements to Claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 3 and 11-13, and Claims 4-10 and 14-18 dependent therefrom, are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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